

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 EUR-12 COME-00 ISO-00

TRSE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

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SUBJECT: FOLLOW UP TO WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

1. SUMMARY. FRENCH CHAIRMAN CONVENED MEETING OECD/DAC GROUP, JULY 9
TO REPORT ON FOLLOW UP ACTIONS SINCE CLOSE OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL FIRST

SESSION AND CONSIDER WHAT MIGHT BE DONE IN UPCOMING WEEKS TO REGAIN
LOST GROUND. MEETING CHARACTERIZED BY SPIRIT OF GLOOM OVER FIRST
COUNCIL SESSION, CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM OF SECRETARIAT AND PRESIDENT
MAREI, SUPPORT FOR CHAIRMAN'S INITIATIVE TO ENCOURAGE MAREI TO CONSULT

GOVERNMENTS IN EFFORT TO GET THEM BACK ON THE TRACK.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT REFLECTED CONCERN ER EFFECT OF FIRST MEETING
AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS HE HAD HAD WITH MAREI (WHO HAD MET WITH
G-77) DESIGNED PARTLY TO ASSURE MAREI THAT HE WAS THE PRESIDENT OF
"ALL IF US". AMONG HIS MAIN POINTS WERE (A) "WHAT HAPPENED" (THE
DIFFICULT LAST DAY OF THE SESSION RUNNING UNTIL 2 AM, CHARACTERIZED
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BY G-77 ATTACKS ON SECRETARIAT, ATTEMPT BY SOME MEMBERS TO HAVE THE

GROUP TAKEN OVER, FRICTION WITHIN THE GROUP, ETC.) WAS AFTER
DEPARTURE OF THE MINISTERS, PRIME SPOKESMEN BEING A NUMBER OF ROME
REPRESENTATIVES TO FAO, (B) INABILITY OF THE PRESIDENT TO ORGANIZE
IN ADVANCE AND RETAIN CONTROL DURING THE MEETING (INCLUDING EXCESSIVE
PARTICIPATION OF TROUBLE-MAKING OBSERVERS), (C) LONG SMOLDERING ANTI-
HANNAH FEELING AMONG THE 77, REFLECTING THE MANNER OF APPOINTMENT
AND DISSATISFACTION BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT APPOINTMENT OF AMERICANS

TO KEY JOBS ARISING FROM WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, (D) WEO CONTACTS WITH
77 WERE NOT GOOD, PARTLY BECAUSE THERE WAS SO LITTLE AGREEMENT AMONG
THE 77 (SOME WANTED TO OBJECT TO EVERYTHING TO "GET AT" HANNAH;
OTHER MORE REASONABLE), (E) PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE SPEECH-
MAKING FORUM WERE NOT CONDUCIVE TO PROGRESS - SHOULD HAVE A "ROUND
TABLE" APPROACH WHERE MINISTERS CAN SEE AND TALK TO EACH OTHER. HE
REPORTED MAREI AS BITTER AT THE G-77 WHO HADN'T KEPT HIM INFORMED,
WORRIED OVER THE SECRETARIAT SITUATION (SAID HE, HANNAH AND WALDHEIM
HAD AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD GET BETTER GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION),
DISAPPOINTED THAT THE COUNCIL WAS NOT SET UP AS AN AUTHORITY WITH
THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP AND IFAD REPORTING TO IT, AND THINKING OF A
MARCH-APRIL MEETING TO TRY TO "SAVE" THE ORGANIZATION AND GET IT BACK
ON THE TRACKS.

3. COUNTRY COMMENTS ALONG SAME GENERAL LINES WITH VARIATIONS IN
DEGREE. SOME, NOTABLY AUSTRALIA, THOUGHT IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THEY WOULD

BE ABLE TO GET MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS. MOST
ASSUMED HANNAH WOULD LEAVE, WITHOUT PUTTING INTO WELL DEFINED TIME
FRAME, BUT SOME ASSERTED THIS WAS NOT JUST A HANNAH OR U.S. PROBLEM
AND THAT WESTERN GROUP MUST RETAIN SECRETARIAT SINCE THE PRESIDENT
AND VICE PRESIDENTS ARE FROM OTHER GROUPS. NETHERLANDS QUESTIONED
WHETHER THERE REALLY WAS ROOM FOR THE COUNCIL. SEVERAL MADE POINT
OF THE "DANGER" INHERENT IN G-77 EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH IN THE CON-
TINUING WORKING GROUP ON RULES AND PROCEDURES WHAT THEY WERE NOT
ABLE TO GET IN PLENARY.

4. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE SUGGESTED THERE WAS TOO MUCH FIGHTING OF
SYMBOLS,
THAT MUCH OF THE PROBLEM MIGHT POSSIBLE BE DUE TO FACT THIS WAS A
FIRST MEETING WITH ADEQUATE PREPARATION IMPOSSIBLE, AND THAT PLETHORA
OF GROUPS HANDLING SAME ISSUES (FRIST BROUGHT UP BY NETHERLANDS)
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MEANT THAT IT WAS ALL THE MORE NECESSARY FOR THE COUNCIL TO FOCUS
ON 2 OR 3 ISSUES ON WHICH ITS POLITICAL/PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPACT
MIGHT BE REAL. SUGGESTED THAT WASHINGTON, AS OTHER CAPITALS, WOULD
BE REASSESSING WHOLE PROBLEM BUT PERSONALLY WAS CONFIDENT CONCLUSIONS
WOULD BE FOR CONTINUED FULL SUPPORT AND REPRESENTATION AT MINISTERIAL
LEVEL IN EFFORT TO HELP THE COUNCIL ACHIEVE THE HOPES FOR IT WHICH
THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE HAS EXPRESSED. MAREI'S CONCERN FULLY
JUSTIFIED AND WAS HEALTHY SIGN SINCE HE PROBABLY WAS IN BEST POSITION

BE SECURE REASONABLE BEHAVIOR FROM NON WESTERN GROUPS.

5. THERE WAS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION THAT HE SHOULD CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE MARIE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE (VISIT COUNTRIES, ETC.) WITHOUT TAKING OVER FUNCTION OF SECRETARIAT; TO WORK TOWARD A MORE POINTED AGENDA FOR ANY SUCCEEDING MEETING; AND TO DELAY CALLING ANY ADDITIONAL MEETING UNTIL WE WERE MUCH BETTER ORGANIZED FOR IT.VOLPE

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